

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

Volume 8

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Number 2

WITHIN THE WEEK

News dispatches are painting such a favorable picture of the war, on all fronts, that our military leaders in Washington are becoming concerned.

There is a concerted effort in military and administration circles to offset this situation with continuing reminders that we still have a long, tough struggle ahead of us. But it is difficult to beat black headlines with blue predictions. Even the grisly word that U S casualties now surpass our toll for World War I has not dismayed our people. Although these sobering statistics are not taken lightly, the public, in gen'l, is a little surprised to learn that the toll is not heavier. After all, for us, this war has already continued 12 mo's beyond the duration of the 1st conflict. And it is not unreasonable to assume a greater loss, particularly when we were schooled in the pre-invasion period to anticipate casualties.

These informal (and wholly unauthorized) predictions are now being made quite generally: The Russians will occupy Warsaw and probably break into Prussia this month. (Stockholm dispatches report that German civilians are already being evacuated from parts of East Prussia, toward which the Russian army rolls at the rate of a mile an hr.) There is another bet that Allied forces will possess Paris before Labor Day.

FRANCE: The capture of Cherbourg facilitates the landing of heavier equipment (Channel crossings are now almost a matter of routine) and we shall presently see the war in the West enter a new phase where the superiority of our mechanized equipment will become increasingly apparent.

We forecast last wk some further Allied landings. It is possible that Gen'l Eisenhower's conference with Gen'l Montgomery may be the prelude to interesting developments.

POLITICS: Interest centers on the Democratic nomination for v-p. Carefully-planned Wallace build-up shows signs of crumbling. Trip to China, planned as prestige-builder may boomerang unless Wallace can demonstrate results not apparent in news dispatches. Old-line Democrats mean business when they promise Convention fight. But CIO is *demanding* Wallace. Promises to be an interesting test of strength. We'll analyze from the ringside.

CHINA: United Press quotes Japanese imperial board: "On the Chinese continent, the Anglo-Americans are manifesting even more their sinister designs." But outlook from our point of view is not promising. Question remains: Can China be kept in the war?



SHIFTING SANDS

We have so persistently warned of a transportation breakdown that the theme is threadbare. But the danger persists, and the situation grows increasingly acute. Passenger cars are now being retired from service at the rate of 5000 a day, which is nearly twice the obsolescence rate of yr ago. Trucks, too, are deteriorating rapidly. All public transportation systems are jammed. Independence Day avalanche emphasizes point that people aren't heeding pleas to stay home. . . . Several-times-revised Townsend "old-age" plan is certain to bob up soon as Congress reconvenes. Backers lack only 10 signatures to force a House vote; will get them quickly. Provisions: monthly annuities to all over 60; to mothers, and the disabled. Money raised thru 3% tax on gross income, excluding 1st \$1200, all individuals and corporations. On basis '42 nat'l income, annuity estimated \$92.60 per month. Look for fire-works!



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"Nobody's in charge. We're each in charge of ourselves.—A Lenin-grad woman, helping clear city after Nazi siege.

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"They're refugees from the German rocket robots raiding England."—JOS GOEBBELS, Nazi propaganda minister, explaining presence of Allied armies in France.

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"My Mormon grandfather had six wives and 52 children. All those 52 children had more children—so now, I never have to worry about fans."—LARAINÉ DAY, motion picture actress.

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"I believe that everyone you meet is a potential murderer."—JOAN HARRISON, author and producer of the movie *Dark Waters*, in which a dozen crimes of violence transpire simultaneously.

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"The best that can be hoped for in a college training is to make the student cognizant of what education means and to grade him so that he may have the urge thru study and reading to become educated."—DR ROGER ADAMS, U of Ill.

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"Few would believe that Britain entered the war for the sake of Poland's integrity. If she did, she should now, for the sake of consistency, be strongly opposing any proposed acquisition by Russia of Poland's pre-war territory."—EAMON DE VALERA, prime minister of Eire.

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"If a woman fights her way into a crowded subway, knocking a few people over, a man certainly isn't going to say, 'You poor helpless creature, please have my seat.' If you act like a lady, you'll be treated like one."—PEGGY HOPKINS JOYCE, interviewed by EARL WILSON.

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"This Alliance (Anglo-Soviet-American) is not built merely upon an agreement between three men. It is the result of a deep and compelling fundamental community of historical interests. It is assured by the fact that we all need each other."—JOS STALIN to Prof OSCAR LANGE, of U of Chicago (as reported by DREW PEARSON.)

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"Buy Bonds—or better yet, buy this farm and I'll buy bonds!"—Sign posted on the Conn farm of the actor ZAC FREEDMAN.

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"I'm enclosing \$3 to pay for some rocks I took from your right of way 35 yrs ago, for my sling-shot."—Conscience letter rec'd by Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Ry, Mobile, Ala.

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"Conn's already got him beat up here."—JACK KEARNS, tapping his forehead. (Fight promoter who managed JACK DEMPSEY is backing HARRY CONN to beat JOE LOUIS in postwar bout.)

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"Now I just paste them on and shellac over them. It got to be a job, that painting."—Cpl. FELIX SHACKI, who got so weary painting swastikas on nose of Lt-Col FRANCIS GABRESKI's Thunderbolt (27 up to last wk) that he had wood blocks carved, ran off a supply of swastikas on gummed paper.

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"Should leadership such as Germany's, which has the fortune to be able to say that for 4 yrs it has achieved nothing but success, fail in the test?"—ADOLF HITLER, in what is conceded the gloomiest speech of his career, urging homefolk to match desperate efforts of fighting forces.

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"Any passenger overcharged by a Yellow Cab driver can get a refund by notifying the company. And no matter how hard it may be to get drivers, the company will discharge anyone found overcharging a customer."—W D JAMES, asst mgr Mound City Cab Co, St Louis, in a determined effort to halt overcharges on share-the-ride trips.

"I see my old mother sitting on the porch waving my insurance policy."—American soldier under fire on beachhead at Normandy.

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"It's a pity there are no Huns in them!"—WINSTON CHURCHILL, watching Nazi rocket bombs being shot down in suburbs of London.

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"The war has now entered upon a decisive state, both in the East and in the West."—Japanese Imperial board, in a warning statement to the homeland.

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"They're certainly making it complete, aren't they?"—WENDELL WILLKIE, commenting on what he believes the isolationism trend of Republican Nat'l committee, as evidenced in last wk's reorganization.

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"It is possible for this unit to be wiped out; it is impossible for it to retreat."—HERMAN GOERING, addressing famed Nazi Division bearing his name, at time it was formed. (Remains of the unit recently retreated 130 mi in about 10 days.)

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"We know what we are fighting against, but what are we fighting for? Are you satisfied with any official statement of our war and peace aims, and if not, what do you propose?"—NORMAN THOMAS, perennial Socialist candidate, in a questionnaire submitted to Republican candidate THOS E DEWEY.

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"Should families be put out of their homes just because they have a baby? This court does not believe this policy should be followed, and will not permit such tactics."—Judge WALTER PRITCHARD, Indianapolis, deciding for defendant in an eviction case.

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"Send this \$20 to the man who packed my parachute."—Lt RICHARD PERLE, in a letter written from a Nazi prison to his parents in Forest Hills, N Y. He explained that the money was of no present value to him, and he wanted to express gratitude to the individual whose good work had saved his life when he bailed out. (The money found its way to the proper source.)

"The place to begin the battle against crime is in the high-chair, not the electric chair."—MARVIN B ROSENBERY, Chief Justice, Wis Supreme Court.

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"I guess I'm a sort of a liberal."—DEWEY BRICKER, Frankfort, Ind ry man who came to sudden notoriety last wk because he carries combined names of Republican nominees.

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"How can a struggle which has behind it all the fanaticism of a nation end otherwise than in victory, quite irrespective of what the situation may be at the moment?" ADOLF HITLER, speaking at the funeral of Gen EDUARD DIETL, Nazi commander in Finland, killed in a plane crash.

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"We don't retire army gen'ls at a fixed age. If they prove their worth, they get to stay on. I think any gen'l in science who has demonstrated that he is fit to carry on should not be retired against his will."—Dr. MAUD SLYE, cancer research specialist, U of Chicago. (Dr SLYE, this yr reaches 65, official retirement age at the university.)

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"No doubt most of the men at the front would like easier and better-paid peace-time jobs; but they are sticking to the jobs they have now."—Gen H H ARNOLD, commander Army Air Forces, urging workers not to throw up war jobs and ret'n to civilian occupations, or "shop around" for more lucrative employment, at a time when "there is still a tough fight ahead of us."

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"I am not going to send this man to prison. . . He was getting \$100 a month as teller. If banks pay this kind of money in these times, they and insurance companies must take the consequences for such acts as this. If this man had been paid more, he might not have taken the money."—Federal Judge MICHAEL L IGOE, in Chicago, refusing to sentence Edw F Muzik, 45, who embezzled \$41,000 from Cicero State Bank over 10 yr period. Muzik mortgaged his home for \$5,000; paid an add'l \$1,200 in part restitution.

"Had I been able to stay in power. . . Fascism might never have come to Italy."—VITTORIO EMMANUELE ORLANDO, Premier of Italy in World War I. He is now 84.

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"You can't take a chance out on patrol."—Sgt ROB'T GREEN, with the 5th Army in Italy. He saw something move in the underbrush—and fired. It turned out to be a cow.

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"I'm tired of this."—WILHELM VON SCHLIEBEN, Nazi gen'l, captured at Cherbourg, complaining to photographer ROB'T CAPA. Photographer's retort: "Yes, gen'l, and I, too, am tired, because lately I have been taking pictures of so many German gen'ls."

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"I think the American people would understand that pretty well without my assistance, although I may find it desirable to comment, if he does."—THOS E DEWEY, asked to comment on rumor that Pres ROOSEVELT may make an acceptance speech from Normandy, if nominated for a 4th term.

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"You represent a rich company, but it won't be rich very long. Capitalism is doomed in America."—Rep LOUIS LUDLOW, of Indiana, quoting a comment made by a Washington bureaucrat to one of his constituents. The congressman, in a network broadcast, sought support for his resolution seeking investigation of "bureaucracy and unconstitutional trends." LUDLOW, a Democrat, says his proposal has no political implications.

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"It may be that we are witnessing the last act in the long tragedy of war, simply because the whole sorry business is rapidly reducing itself to the ridiculous."—Adm THOS L GATCH, addressing Md Bar ass'n. Adm GATCH contends that when we advance to pilotless and crewless bomber we shall have reached the ultimate in the ridiculous, and men will end war. He added that with new deadly instruments yet to come, the surprise attack of the future "will make the Pearl Harbor affair look like a Sunday School picnic."

"This is just like the last war, only the holes are bigger."—ERNE PYLE, quoting a veteran of World War I.

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"Rumor reports that it is possible to transport the flying bomb aboard submarines which, lying many miles off the American coast, will bombard N Y, covering it with projectiles."—Berlin correspondent of the Madrid newspaper, Ya.

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"There wasn't anything in those rows but pigeons picking their teeth."—JAS S POOLER, reporter for *Detroit Free-Press*, reporting on condition of city's model Victory Garden, which was presumed to "provide enough for the average family of five."

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"I'll take a handicapped person any day in preference to a physically normal person. We didn't lose an employe to the draft. We have no problem of absenteeism, and in 9 yrs we have had only one accident."—GEO BARR, Chicago industrialist. (When no one would give him a job because he had lost a leg, BARR went in business for himself, now employs 140 physically handicapped persons.)



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MINING THE MAGAZINES

No Hard Feelings—JAS LANSDALE
HODSON*, *Atlantic*, 7-'44.

At home I call myself a radical; I have never voted Conservative; I am one of those who occasionally remind Mr Churchill—who commands my admiration and affection—that he is not God. May I then say a word in reply to some of the criticism of us? I speak for nobody but J L Hodson.

I am not opposed to criticism; I favor it. But it should have facts for its foundation. If there is to be criticism it must, like Lend-Lease, be a two-way affair. . .

If you attack us on India, I can see no reason why we should not remind you of your Negro problem. When you say that we are not democratic, you might be called on to recollect that, in all events, every British subject of voting age in Britain can vote, but that hundreds of thousands of your own citizens cannot. Americans may resent these retorts, but I humbly suggest that you had better get used to them. Boxers who give punches must expect to take some in ret'n.

We British need to copy three things from you—warm friendliness, frankness, toughness. Our appeasement of America leads you to feel that you are very noble to be fighting in Europe, that it is our war you are engaged in once more. . . If that is to be so, if a majority of American people hold that view and act on it, then, in due course and in the devil's time, this monstrous task in which my son and yours are now engaged will have to be done all over again.

* Mr. Hodson, English author and playwright, served in the infantry in the 1st World War. He wrote the commentary used with the film *Desert Victory*.

ACQUISITIVENESS

Birds build nests, but no bird ever tried to build more and larger nests than its neighbors; no fox ever fretted because he had only one hole in which to hide; no squirrel ever died of anxiety lest he should not lay up enough nuts for two winters instead of one; no dog ever lost sleep over the fact that he did not have enough bones buried in the ground for his declining yrs.—*Christian Observer*.

AVIATION—Education

This whole problem of flight is facing American schools. Our future in the air depends in a large part on the aviation training and experience that our young people have in our secondary schools. As educators, we must accept the challenge and head our planning constructively for future generations in the air.—EMERSON NEUTHARDT, "Flight and Mechanic Training in Motorless Planes for Secondary Schools," *Education*.

CENSORSHIP

Hitler's *Mein Kampf* is selling so sluggishly in the Reich these days that the lack of demand has inspired a popular underground joke. It goes like this:

"The Nazis have banned *Mein Kampf*."

"Why?"

"Well, all the other books they have banned have become so popular, they hope this move will make somebody read *Mein Kampf*."

COMPLACENCY

There was a chronic offender in whom I took an interest. The charges with monotonous regularity were: "Drunk, out of uniform, fighting, resisting arrest, inciting a riot."

Finally we made a little wager. I bet that he could not stay on the wagon until a certain date. The wager was all but won. Then, on the eve of victory, he fell with a crash.

In the brig, I found the culprit quite cheerful despite a badly discolored eye. He dismissed my rebuke with a lordly gesture. "Well, anyway, I didn't incite no riot."—C STANLEY LOWELL, "I Was a Chaplain," *Christian Century*, 6-28-'44.

The Risen Soldier

These paragraphs from the address delivered by Rep CLARE BOOTHE LUCE at Republican Nat'l convention are being widely quoted for their poetic power. John W Hillman, commentator, asserts that not since the Cross of Gold convention has there been a comparable literary gem offered to a political gathering:

I am the risen soldier, I have come from a thousand towns, the city blocks, the factories of this fair land.

Many am I, yet truly one, the son of many streams that poured their wealth into the common cup, the wide and golden cup of liberty.

I am the risen soldier, though I die I shall live on and, living, still achieve my country's mission—liberty in truth.

Lord, it is sweet to die—as it were good to live, to strive for these United States, which, in Your wisdom You have willed should be a beacon to the world, a living shrine of liberty and charity and peace.

CRITICISM—Candid

The man who boasts that he calls a spade a spade is always giving somebody a dirty dig.—*Country Gentleman*.

DETERMINATION

Four soldiers were playing poker in the smoking compartment of a Pullman car. The hr was late; the porter wanted to go to bed. So he used an old and favored strategy. He got out his bucket and mop, and the powerful disinfectant he uses to scrub the floor. Soon the room was so filled with the strong odor, even the porter could stand it no longer. He left the compartment briefly. When he ret'd the four were still playing cards—but they were all wearing gas masks, and had thoughtfully laid out an extra mask for the porter.—*Tracks*, hm C&O Ry.

DREAMS—Reality

This is a time when only the dreamers will turn out to be practical men.—LEWIS MUMFORD, *New Republic*.

EMOTIONS—vs. Intelligence

The mind of man has weighed the stars, smashed the atom, harnessed the tides of air and sea. Still we insist that intelligence... has been vastly over-valued. Surely, with brutal Nazism and Fascism scourging the world, it is time to emphasize the importance of feelings and emotions...

It is the emotions by which we really live and on which our survival depends... It is our emotions which determine whether our minds are to function for us or against us, or not at all.—BRADFORD MURPHEY, M D, "A Psychiatrist Looks at Art," *School Arts*, 6-'44.

FREE ENTERPRISE

A free enterprise system is one in which free men show enterprise.—*Iron Age*.

Nearer to Thee . . .

Religious News Service quotes these comments from mbrs of an American bomber crew stationed in Russia:

"You sure get to believe in God on these trips!"—Lt MEYER TRACHTENBERG, of N Y City.

" "

"You can do more praying in 5 minutes of a bomb run than in the rest of your lifetime."—Staff Sgt JESSE WADE, Morgantown, Va.

" "

"This business of flying will make a Christian of you just about as fast as anything can."—Lt JAY MARLOWE, Lexington, Ky.

GOVT—Yugoslavia

A small citadel of democracy, we are under constant attack from overwhelming enemy forces. . . (Yet) today we have our own true People's Gov't, developed in the process of this struggle and elected by popular vote. Our people desire—and believe—that the Allies will soon accord official recognition to this gov't as the only real representative of the Yugoslav people.—JOSIP BROZ TITO, "The Yugoslav Peoples Fight to Live" (1st statement by Marshal Tito) *Free World*, 6-'44.

INDUSTRY—Southern

"You can't keep Southern brains at home by legislation, exactly," admitted Gov Arnall, of Ga.

"It's like the time when I was Att'y Gen'l and a senator came to me storming, 'We've got to have some kind of a law to make agriculture prosperous.'"

"All right," I said, 'just a minute, I'll draw up a law.'

"So I wrote out a 2-paragraph act:

"Be it enacted by the Gen'l Assembly of the State of Ga that agriculture in this state shall be prosperous! (2) That all statutes in conflict herewith are hereby repealed."

"But you can't do that!" protested the senator.

"Of course you can't," I replied. And no more can I legislate to keep Southern ability at home. But by enacting favorable laws, repealing discriminatory statutes, we hope to attract industry. Thus we can keep native ability at home."—MALCOLM W BAYLEY, "They're Comin' Up in Ga," *Christian Science Monitor*, 6-24-'44.

JAPANESE-AMERICANS

I am never so mad as when I hear cracks about "Japs" fighting on our side in Italy. Anybody who calls these doughboys Japs is the most narrow-minded person I know of. These kids are just as much American as I am. I'd like to hear the ruckus that would ensue around anybody foolish enough to disparage them before the two Iowa battalions that fought with them!—Maj Jas J GILLESPIE, quoted in *Des Moines Register*.

LABOR RELATIONS

"What's the big trouble here?" I once asked a university professor who had been called in to help solve the problem of labor turnover in a big machine works.

"Well," he said, "I have been around here a good while now, and I haven't found anybody in authority who has a sense of humor. That's the biggest trouble of all here."—NORMAN C SCHLICHTER, *Good Business*.



**CONFIDENTIALLY
THRU A
MEGAPHONE**

Many American Negro servicemen now in England are writing to their families that they are experiencing freedom from race prejudice for 1st time in their lives. One expression: "I had to leave the States to learn the meaning of real democracy." Some declare their intentions of remaining in British Empire after war's end. (In justice to U S should be pointed out that England has very few Negroes and they do not represent a social problem.)

The WPA (Works Projects Administration) expired June 30, with few to lament its passing. In nine yrs, it spent upwards of \$10 billion to provide employment for 8½ million persons.

Selective service is beginning to crack down on "farm jumpers"—men deferred to agriculture, who leave farms for other occupations without sanction of local draft boards. In Rutherford County, Tenn, sixteen such men were inducted into armed forces last wk. All were over 28 yrs of age.

Medical ass'ns are deeply concerned by Army decision to give no further deferments to premedical students. They point out death rate of physicians will increase because many older men have continued practice during emergency; that liberated nations and China will need thousands of American-trained medical men in early post-war period.

Again in this election, U S newspapers will be overwhelmingly against FDR (some estimates run high as 80% anti-4th Term.) However, majority of working newsmen will probably vote for Roosevelt.



INVENTIONS: Supplementary use for new "Asdic" submarine sound detector: to locate schools of fish. In postwar service, fishing boats, equipped with device, could go directly to the catch. (*Rotarian*)

MEDICINE: Measles protection is now available thru *gamma globulin*, substance separated from blood plasma. Can be used either to prevent disease or to modify attack and develop resistance. Red Cross will transfer product from mfgs to state and local health dep'ts. These will pay cost price, distribute without charge. (*Science News Letter*)

Armed forces provide ideal testing for newer medical products and techniques. Large groups are available for simultaneous experiment under controlled conditions. One conclusion from tests involving 250,000 Naval trainees: daily dosage of sulfadiazine will check well-developed streptococcus outbreak.

Notion that rest in bed is "good medicine" is strongly disputed by Dr Wm Dock, Cornell M College. "Absolute bed rest kills more patients than anesthesia and all drugs in the pharmacopeia." Doubly true of older persons. Blood tends to stagnate in veins. Clots form. When patient arises clots may find way to lungs with fatal results. Bed rest robs bones of chalk; weakens blood vessels and tone of muscles; fosters constipation, lowers morale.

SYNTHETICS: Formulas and processes have been developed by means of which scrap synthetic rubber can be reclaimed using same mach'y used for reclaiming natural rubber. Reclaimed product can be made into identical articles for which it was previously used. Already, more than a million lbs of synthetic have been reclaimed. (*Scientific American*).

MERCHANDISE—Scarcity

And there's the case of the realistic elevator operator in a dep't store who announced: "3rd floor—nothing much."—*The Montrealer*.

MILITARY SERVICE

"Of course my boy who is now 14 will be drafted into the postwar army," a Ga mother told us, quietly, the other day. We found the thought startling. — *Progressive Farmer*.

MONEY

Money is an article which may be used as a universal passport to everywhere except Heaven and as a universal provider of everything except happiness.—*Wall St Jn'l*.

MOTION PICTURES

One of Sam'l Goldwyn's earliest importations was Maurice Maeterlinck. "I know you don't understand picture technique," Goldwyn assured him. "You don't have to. Just go home and write your greatest book over in the form of a scenario. I don't care how long it takes you."

Some wks later the scenario was delivered. The beaming Goldwyn took it to his private sanctum. Two minutes later he rushed out tearing his hair. "My God," he screamed, "the hero is a bee!"—BENNETT A CERF, "The Goldwyn Saga," *Reader's Scope*, 7-44.

PARTICIPATION

Plenty of people are willing to put an oar into anything. Few are willing to pull on it.—HOWARD W NEWTON, *Adv & Selling*.

PICNICS

Picnics should always be for two people, usually in love, or for a great many, of all ages and natures.—M K F FISHER (author, *How to Cook a Wolf*) *House Beautiful*, 7-44.

PUNISHMENT—Undeserved

"Dickie," said his mother, on the point of chastisement, "do you know, when you're bad it's because the devil whispers in your ear?"

Dickie looked up accusingly and asked, "Then, Mother, why do you spank ME?"—*Parents' Mag*.

REGIMENTATION

This note was left in an RFD mail-box:

"Dear Mailman: Attached is a check for \$5 for which you will kindly get me a stamp to make our flivver a legal means of transportation for the purpose of going to the ration board for a permit to get gas to have our machine inspected so we may visit the ration board to get authority to buy a new tire so that our car may be in suitable condition to go pay our withholding tax."—*Prairie Schooner*.

There's Always Hope

One afternoon in Bizerte I heard a great big tank driver from Texas ask another soldier, "What's all this crowd for? What's going on?"

His buddy said, "Bob Hope's going to do a show for us."

The first guy said, "You mean Bob Hope followed us all the way to Bizerte? I volunteered to serve my country, but damn it, this is ridiculous. I hear he even follows the casualties right into the hospitals."

His buddy said, "Don't forget Frances Langford's here, too."

The Texas guy said, "That's what I mean. Who needs Hope?"

But I'd heard enough. He couldn't knock me. I walked right up to him and said, "Listen, soldier, maybe you don't like me. But I've played so many camps back in the States, the USO thought it was time I came over here to try to boost the morale."

"What can you do to boost the morale of the guys over here?" Tex asked.

"Nothing!" I said. "But just knowing I'm over here in Africa makes the GI's in the States feel safe for a little while."

—BOB HOPE, *I Never Left Home*. (Simon & Schuster).

WISDOM—vs. Sophistication

"Young men of today are considerably smarter than were their parents at the same age," says an educator. Smarter, perhaps, but not so wise.—OLIN MILLER, *Chicago Sun Syndicate*.

Death Comes for the Captain

HERVEY ALLEN, author of *Anthony Adverse*, has undertaken a North American romance of uncommonly wide scope. It is eventually to be published as a comprehensive novel, *The Disinherited*. Meanwhile, at intervals, we have the separate books: *last yr*, *The Forest and The Fort*, and now, *Bedford Village*. The scene, a Pennsylvania pioneer community in the yr 1764. Farrar & Rinehart are the publishers; the price, \$2.50. In this excerpt, we find Capt Ecuyer, intrepid and brilliant soldier, awaiting his end and matching wits against the preachers fighting for his soul.

The manner of Capt Ecuyer's taking off was this: His ancestors had striven for generations to contrive that he should be well-born, and in his death he hoped not to belie them. Fate had denied him the honor of snatching him suddenly from the field of battle. Nevertheless, he was determined to overcome that and to compliment both his family and his profession by perishing in bed, since he had to, like a brave soldier and an intelligent man.

He lay watching the sun setting behind the hills, as he had watched it every day for wks. He grew drowsy. But any sunset now might be his last. Ecuyer wished that Surgeon Boyd could have stayed with him. "He might have kept those heavenly foxhounds off my trail," he muttered.

"O Lord," he prayed, "if it be possible, rid me of thy faithful servants, the Rev Jas McArdle and Mr Chas Puffin." He waited as tho for an answer. "I know," he whispered to himself at last, "I'll send for the village schoolmaster!"

Ecuyer grinned into the darkness. "Thanks, Holy Comforter," he said, and let the Bible slip off the bed to the floor. . .

The last time Mr Puffin and McArdle visited Ecuyer they found Mr Hume, the schoolmaster, sitting by the window eating an apple, and the captain propped up, waiting for them, too. Salathiel with his arms folded sat near the head of the bed. Two empty chairs had been set in the middle of the room, awaiting them.

These preparations were not lost on the visitors. Word of the battle they were waging had got about. Not only the captain's soul, but their own reputations as converters were now at stake. They had hoped for a formal repentance, before wit-

nesses, and they sat down expectantly, trying to suppress any signs of triumph at being about to pluck the ripened fruit.

McArdle drew a Testament from his pocket and began to read:

"This is my beloved son. Hear ye him," he shouted.

"This is my esteemed friend, the schoolmaster," roared Ecuyer, summoning the last of his strength. "Hear ye him."

McArdle paused with astonishment both at the voice and at its pronouncement.

"Mr Hume is prepared to submit on my behalf an incontrovertible piece of human wisdom—if you persist, sir," said Ecuyer. And in fact Mr Hume had laid down his apple.

McArdle waited for a moment, looking about him. He was not sure yet what the Captain intended. Then he flushed angrily and began to read again from the Testament.

"Mr Hume," said Ecuyer.

"Two times one is two; two times two is four; two times three is six. . ." began Mr Hume in the indestructible tones of a schoolmaster. McArdle flipped the leaves of his Bible with exasperated astonishment, and fixing on the 5th chapter of St John, resumed desperately.

At "seven times one is seven," McArdle closed his Bible with a clap and stalked out. Mr Puffin awaited him sheepishly downstairs.

Mr Hume completed the eighth table all alone—and stopped.

The captain opened his eyes and looked at the two empty chairs.

"The rest is silence," said Mr Hume aply.

"I hope so," said the captain.

Ecuyer filled the glasses with brandy. "To the success of your future secular instruction," he said. They drank the toast together, after which Mr. Hume rec'd a gold piece gladly.



GEMS FROM

Yesteryear

Contentment

ISAAC WALTON

It was 300 yrs ago this month that Walton, having gained a modest competency as a sempster or man milliner in London, retired to the quiet enjoyment of country life. He was then 50. His famous work, The Compleat Angler, appeared a decade later. It should be better known by its subtitle, The Contemplative Man's Companion, for it is packed with philosophical observations such as the passage quoted here. Walton also wrote the "lives" of several high churchmen. He died in his 90th yr.

I sat down under a willow tree by the waterside, and considered what you had told me of the owner of that pleasant meadow: that he had a beautiful estate and not a heart to think so; that he had at this time many lawsuits depending, and that they both damped his mirth and took up so much of his time and thoughts that he had no leisure to take the sweet content that I, who pretended no title to them, took in his fields; for I could there sit quietly and, looking on the water, see some fishes sport themselves in the silver streams, others leaping at flies of several shapes and colours. . .

I say, as I thus sat, pitying the poor rich man that owned this and many other pleasant spots, I did thankfully remember what my Saviour said, that the meek possess the earth; or rather they enjoy what others possess and enjoy not. For Anglers and meek quiet-spirited men are free from those high, those restless thoughts which corrode the sweets of life.

The Norwegian Underground delights in telling the story about the young Nazi who was deeply absorbed in reading a copy of *The London Times* while on guard duty at a lonely Norwegian outpost. Suddenly, his superior officer came along and caught him at it. "So," he exploded, "You are reading enemy propaganda, Fritz! What is the meaning of this? Explain yourself!"

The other gulped uncomfortably once or twice then smiled sheepishly. "Can I help it, sir, if I happen to be an old subscriber?"—*Christian Science Monitor*.

" "

Frank Kroeger, Summit County Ohio recorder tells of a veteran from a remote district who came to the county court house and asked to have his discharge papers recorded as the law req'd.

Kroeger noticed that the papers had been recorded in the man's home state in '20. He asked the veteran why he wished them recorded again.

"Why," said the vet, "so 's I can git that musterin'-out pay they're talkin' about."—AP dispatch.



Wisecracks OF THE WEEK

Won't Eleanor be surprised if she comes back to the White House one of these days and maybe finds Franklin has moved out?—GRACIE ALLEN, reporting Republican Nat'l convention.

" "

Now all the Republicans have got to worry about is—Dewey or don't he.—BOB BURNS.

" "

One of the most intriguing modern mysteries is how the neighbors get so much sugar and gas.—*Pathfinder*.

GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

LAUGHS WITH LEGISLATORS

Rep LOUIS LUDLOW,
Indiana

An aged practitioner was making oral argument before the court. He was erudite and eloquent—but lacking in terminal facilities. Finally, the Chief Justice called a halt in the usual kind and diplomatic way: "Counsel has one minute to complete his argument."

The old lawyer used that minute to tell this story:

"At a meeting of the Presbyterian Gen'l Assembly last yr, the moderator announced: 'The next number will be an address by Rev. James McCosh, Chancellor of Princeton University. Subject: The Immortality of the Soul.' Time allotted: 15 min!"

The court was convulsed with laughter.

Donald heard his father use some blue-bordered words, which he immediately took up and began to repeat. The father at once called a conference.

"Son," he said, "I'm sorry I used that bad language. Let's not ever cuss again. I'll try to quit if you will."

The bargain was made, and no one thought more of it—until the following Sunday, when Don confessed to his Sunday School teacher: "Me and my dad did cuss, but we're trying to quit."—*Atlanta Jnl*.

Rockwell Kent, the artist, was present at the showing of some of his work when a woman accosted him regarding the appearance of one of his celebrated angels.

"No angel ever looked like that, Mr Kent," said the woman.

"Madam," replied Kent, "have you ever seen an angel?"

" "

"How did you learn to kiss like that?" she asked in ecstatic tones.

And promptly he replied: "Si-phoning gas."

" "

A recruit was overheard saying in his sleep: "Don't kill Hitler at once. Make him finish basic training first!"—*The Link*.

